



502d Personnel Services Battalion 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized)

Official Family Readiness Group Newsletter



September 2005

Volume I, Issue I



Commander's Corner

To the Soldiers, Family and Friends of "The Best":

This is the first opportunity I have had to put some ideas on paper and express my thanks for all the hard work to this point in making my family welcome here in Texas. I appreciate all the hard work that went into the Change of Command and a smooth, seamless transition. I expected nothing less based on 502d PSB's reputation.

As we prepare for deployment, I wanted to highlight some key dates and functions geared towards families. First is a Battalion Family Readiness Group (FRG) meeting on 8 September, 1800 hours, at the 19th Street Chapel (corner of 19th Street and Battalion Avenue, across from A&W). The intent of this meeting is to establish the lines of communication and information sharing within the Battalion, and get to know those people and facilities on post that are able to provide assistance to our families, whether it be financial management, stress management, coping, or just plain bonding together with friends. Next, we are tentatively planning a Battalion Organizational Day for 30 September, time and location to be determined. I plan on having the commanders and FRGs jointly work this project, and have heard some interesting ideas already. As long as it involves shade or water, I am in. Also, our S3 has coordinated with post for our PreDeployment Briefings on 1 November, to be held at the Phantom Warrior Center. We will attempt to hold a daytime and evening briefing, with all the Army Community Service organizations represented.

Training wise, we have some key dates ahead where our Soldiers will be doing some intense work. Our Convoy Live Fire is scheduled for 19-22 September, so expect some late nights and tired Soldiers during that time. Also, we will go to our rear detachment on or about 15 September and begin to train as our wartime

teams. After a month of intense work, we will grant liberal leave and passes for 15-30 October, to allow families the time to finalize any last details prior to deployment.

Finally, I want to thank the spouses of our Soldiers for all the faith and understanding that you have provided. Without your support, our Soldiers would not be able to focus on their mission. Our Soldiers are not only part of the largest Personnel Service Battalion in the US Army, but one with one of the best reputations for personnel support.

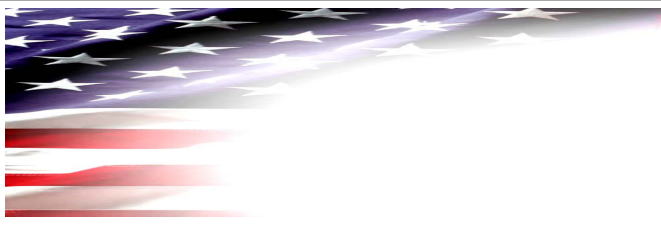
Truly, the Best Supports the Best!

I know you are all concerned out the upcoming deployment of our Soldiers to Iraq. Believe me, I am just as concerned, but I want you to understand the reasons behind our deployment and the importance of the mission we are about to undertake. The 4th Infantry Division is going into Iraq at a critical time in Iraq's history, as a General Assembly of a sovereign and free country has set about drafting and ratifying the countries' first constitution, and electing its first democratic leaders. Our mission will be to provide personnel support to the 4th ID and attached elements, as well as provide security to our own assets. I have the utmost confidence in our Soldiers ability to accomplish our mission, and it is critical that we do this now. Whether you support the political reasons behind the liberation of Iraq, one thing is clear: the Middle East will be a far more secure area now, and in the future, without the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein and his oppressive policies. We must finish this mission today, to keep our sons and daughters from having to fight another war, another time. We will deploy together, as a team, and work hard. Sweat now will pay off in the end.

Thank you,
LTC Todd Garlick

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CSM Corner

I'd like to express my deepest gratitude to our soldiers and their family members for their endless support to the Battalion.

This is a busy time for everyone. Soldiers and leaders are aggressively training on basic survivability skills and deployment preparations while family members are preparing for the long separation from their soldier.

The Battalion Commander and I are very proud of our 502d PSB team members. We ask and expect a lot from our soldiers and subordinate leaders. No matter what the task, condition, or standard are, our team members surpass our expectations and they do it with a positive attitude. Alpha, Bravo, and Echo Detachments are always busy with daily personnel services to the community and simultaneously conducting Fast Team training on Common Task and Basic Soldier Skills. And of course, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment provide daily support to their sister detachments.

Our soldiers are successful when they have love and support from their family members. Thank you for your positive contributions.

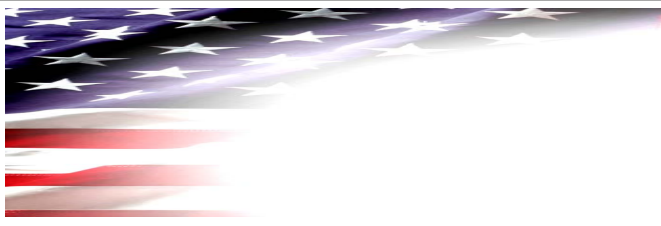
Advance congratulations to the Reese and Velazquez family for their upcoming deliveries.

I am excited about the team that is deploying with us as well as the team we leave behind to take care of business as usual till we are able to reunite as one team for one fight.

Thank you,
CSM Divina Bobb

Congratulations to the following Soldiers for receiving the CDR/CSM Coins of Excellence:

- SPC(P) Price for scoring 149 out of a possible 150 on the E-5 Promotion Board, and for his work in preparing and teaching Convoy Battle Drills class in DET B.
- PFC Walker, Andre, DET A for his marksmanship excellence, scoring 37 of 40 in standard and 42 of 50 in advanced marksmanship skills training. Good shooting.

**HHD****VIPERS**

- **FRG POC'S for the Viper Family**

FRG Advisor: Shanika Whittington
and Roxanne Woods

FRG Leader: TBA

- **Viper Birthday's**

PFC SPERIS	04 AUG 05
CSM BOBB	25 AUG 05
SPC MATYSIK	22 AUG 05
SPC JONES	02 AUG 05

- **Miscellaneous:**

Enjoy a day of fun in the sun at
Sea World for free by logging on
the following website:

www.herosalute.com

Now you can view what is going
on in the battalion anytime by logging
on <http://www.hood.army.mil/4ID/>
Click on "Units" then "502d PSB".
The website is continuously updated
with the latest information that will
assist family and friends with upcoming
events.

- **Viper Promotions:**

SPC PLOKHOVSKYY

- **Viper Hails:**

SSG CRAWFORD, DORCAS
SSG PERDUE, TIMOTHY
SGT BROWN, CORY
SPC YANCY, ENICIUS
PV2 GILLIAM, CHRISTOPHER

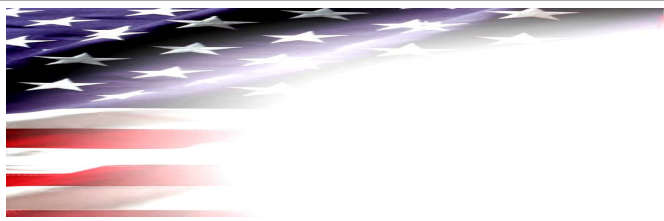
- **Viper Farewells:**

SSG JAMES, ROBERT

- **Upcoming Events**

2 SEP	Training Holiday
5 SEP	Training Holiday
9 SEP	Convoy Training
14 SEP	HHD Bake Sale
15 SEP	HHD Bake Sale
16 SEP	M-249 Range
19-22 SEP	Convoy Live Fire
26 SEP	Pre-Deployment Classes
30 SEP	BN Organization Day

Thank you,
CPT Whittington

**• FRG POC'S for the Renegade Family**

FRG Advisor: Jodi Motszko

FRG Leader: PFC Burns

Commander's Notes:

In preparation for deployment we will see training events increase during the months of September and October. We will also provide as much time as possible for soldiers to spend with their families including a liberal leave period during the second half of October. Many family members will experience fear and apprehension when a loved one deploys. Although nothing can cure these emotions you can feel confident that this command is committed to providing your loved one with every possible advantage. In addition to improvements in personal body armor we will also utilize armored vehicles affording a great deal of protection. Your loved ones are training and working hard to ensure not only their survival, but the survival of the American way of life for generations to come. You should feel a great sense of pride in everything they have and will accomplish.

Promotions:

PFC Arreola

PFC Broxton

PFC Burdell

FRG Points of Contact:

FRG Leader Jodi Motszko
698-1471

FRG Liaison PFC Julie Burns
(219) 306-5751

FRG Treasurer Heather Bellus
285-8264

Upcoming Events:

31 AUG 05 FRG Bake Sale
Building 410

1 SEP 05 M16 Range

2-5 SEP 05 Labor Day Weekend

8 SEP 05 BN FRG Meeting

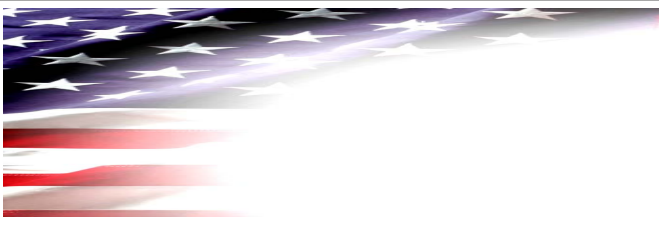
14 SEP 05 Detachment FRG
Meeting

19-22 SEP 05 Convoy Live Fire

30 SEP 05 BN Organization Day

Miscellaneous:

A special thanks to SGT Christopher Bellus. SGT Bellus maintains the country store which has provided around \$1,000 in profits to the FRG fund.



BRAVO BULLDOGS



• **FRG POC'S for the Bulldog Family**

FRG Advisor: Robin Lane

FRG Leader: SPC Terry

Birthdays:

SPC Ford - 3 Sept
PFC Charest - 18 Sept
PFC Peters - 28 Sept



New Bulldogs:

PFC Bizzel
PFC Howard
PFC Peters
PFC Eata
PVT Smith
SPC Ellis
PV2 Bermudes

**Congrats to the PFC
Hinton and Asia for
their newborn baby
boy Ray Allen**

Promotions:

PFC to SPC Lavallee, E.
PV2 to PFC Jones, D.

Upcoming Events:

2-5 Sept - Training Holiday
7 Sept - BN FRG Meeting
20 Sept - Det FRG Meeting
26 Sept - Pre Deployment Classes

I want to thank all the families for all the support they have shown the Bulldogs. We have a new website that you can visit to see all updates and pictures. Go to www.hood.army.mil and click on units then "502d PSB."

CPT Lane
SFC Cisneros

**FRG Bowling with the Families/Next FRG 20
Sept at Iron horse Family Readiness Center**





• **FRG POC'S for the Outlawz Family**

FRG Advisor: Sabina Galan

FRG Leader: SGT James

• **Birthday Announcements:**

SPC Brown	3 SEP
Jade Garcia	3 SEP
Nicholas Barnes	4 SEP
Yvonne Guy	7 SEP
Madison Roerich	15 SEP
SPC Blanding	16 SEP
Terrence Peele Jr.	16 SEP
Andre James	17 SEP
SGT Hall	19 SEP
Michael Valenzuela	20 SEP
PV2 Rios	22 SEP
Kiara Licon	27 SEP
SSG Deshields	30 SEP



• **Anniversaries:**

None this month

• **Birth Announcements:**

None this month

• **Military Idol!**

I wanted to take this opportunity and recognize a couple of upcoming stars. SPC Davis and PFC Hope were part of the 1st "Military Idol" which was held 27 AUG. Both of them did a tremendous job. SPC Davis was picked as

one of the finalist that will move on to the 2nd stage. We wish her all the luck.



Congratulations to the following soldiers:

Promotions:

SGT Davis

SPC Brown

Awards:

• Good Conduct Medal
SPC Jordan



• Hails!

SSG Shelton - CORPS G1

PFC Cuningham - SPT BDE

PV2 Ciragil - SPT BDE

• **Farewells!**

With a heavy heart we wish the following families farewell as they move on from Echo Detachment.

SSG Deshields-PCS



• **Key Dates:**

1 SEP

1 SEP

2 SEP

5 SEP

7 SEP

8 SEP

9 SEP

16 SEP

19-22 SEP

26 SEP

30 SEP

Promotions & Counseling

FRG Fund Raiser (Bank)

Training Holiday

Training Holiday

Civilian Cloths Day

BN FRG Meeting

NBC Training

M-249 Range

Convoy Live Fire

Pre-Deployment Classes

BN Organizational Day

kids only

Do you know who the tallest person was?

The world's tallest man is Robert Pershing Wadlow. The man was 8ft. 11.1 in.

The world's tallest woman is Sandy Allen. She was 7 ft. 7 in.

The giant who fought David in the Bible was 9ft. 9in. tall.



Family Readiness News

It gives me great pleasure in introducing 502d PSB's FRG representatives. The BN FRG Advisor is Carrie Garlick and the BN FRG Leader is SPC Autumn Jensen. Thank you for your patriotism and dedication to the battalion.

• Military Child Education Coalition's:

Tell Me a Story- Making Connections and Finding Support through Literature.

Kick- Off Event:

Sunday, September 11, 2005
2-3:30 PM Fort Hood Walker Youth Center. Free to military parents and children- RSVP required (254-953-1923). Event will feature: Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot *Free book provided to all families who attend!*

• Santa's Workshop:

This is an independent group of volunteers who conduct fundraisers throughout the year to purchase NEW TOYS for distribution to eligible Fort Hood military families during the holiday season. Last year Santa's Workshop assisted over 2,500 children.

One dollar buys one 'Santa Buck' or 'Adopt a Child' for twenty-five dollars each. Every dollar spent supports a toy for a child and every Santa Buck is displayed on a Unit Christmas tree!

To purchase Santa Bucks or if you would like to Adopt a Child, contact 502nd rep: carriegarlick@hotmail.com. For more information about Santa's Workshop or to volunteer contact: santasworkshopforthood@hotmail.com

• Inactive Registration for Child Youth Services:

CYS would like to encourage ALL Fort Hood families to fill out an INACTIVE Registration at CYS. This is especially important for families of deployed soldiers and is FREE of charge! If an emergency happens to the primary care giver, the children can be placed in child care and their registration activated. Without proper registration, a child cannot be placed in a center or at a registered Family Child Care giver's home.

Mail Order Pharmacy: If you take prescription medicine on a routine basis, you may want to consider the mail order pharmacy. Look at Darnall's web page for more info: www.hoodmeddac.army.mil

Thank you,
Carrie Garlick
and
SPC Autumn Jensen